

05-17-06

HDP/SB/21 based on PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	<b>Application Number</b>	10/646,534
	<b>Filing Date</b>	August 21, 2003
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Stockert et al.
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1746
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b> 3562-000036

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <b>Form 1449; copies of 14 references; return postcard.</b>
<b>Remarks</b> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	DONALD G. WALKER	Reg. No.	44,390
Signature					
Date	May 16, 2006				

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.			
Typed or printed name	DONALD G. WALKER	Express Mail Label No.	<del>EV 853 856 321 US (5/16/2006)</del>
Signature		Date	May 16, 2006

EV 853 856 321 US



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/646,534  
Filing Date: August 21, 2003  
Applicant: David L. Stockert et al.  
Group Art Unit: 1746  
Examiner:  
Title: HOUSINGLESS WASHER  
Attorney Docket: 3562-000036

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Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications and other information requested to be considered by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

II. COPIES

A. ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed, other than U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications unless required by the Office; (iii) each unpublished U.S. application listed below in Section IV (i.e., including the specification, claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed, including any claims directed to that portion), except for such applications filed on or after June 30, 2003, pursuant to the Waiver of the Copy Requirement in 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (OG Notice dated October 19, 2004); and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. ☐ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

C. ☐ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search report are listed on the attached Form 1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. If the International Search report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g).)

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A. ☒ Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B. ☒ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

Japanese Patent No. 62-259442 appears to show that when a counter 14 detects that the number of dust particles contained in medicine in a wafer treating inner tank 4 exceeds a set value, a control mechanism 15 receives a signal from the counter 14 to stop the drive of a wafer conveying mechanism. The counter 14 monitors the number of the dust particles in medicine, and receives a signal from the counter 14 when detecting that the number of the dust particles reduces to a set value or lower by purifying the medicine by a filter 11 to restart the drive of the wafer conveying mechanism by the mechanism 15. Thus, when treating with medicine, the amount of the dusts adhered to the wafer can be reduced.

Japanese Patent No. 60-163689 appears to show a washer with a water storage tank.

Japanese Patent No. 2-107296 appears to show that a microcomputer supplies water into a washing tank, and simultaneously lights a light emitting diode 22. Then, water from a feed tube 16 is first supplied to one chamber 19 of a detecting box 17, and the light from the diode 22 is photodetected by a phototransistor 23 through the supplied water. In this case, if the supplied water is turbid, the quantity of the photodetected light of the phototransistor 23 is

reduced. Thus, an output from a turbidity detector 25 is raised. Accordingly, the microcomputer compares the detection output with a predetermined reference value, and if the output exceeds the reference value, the water supply is immediately stopped.

Japanese Patent No. 55-103608 appears to show that original water of turbidity  $D_i$  is taken in by flow quantity  $F_i$  and is branched into two, and one is not processed as it is in the bypass side, and the other has turbidity reduced to turbidity  $D_1$  through turbidity reduction unit 4 in the turbidity processing side, and both are mixed to obtain set turbidity  $D_s$ . Operation 9 calculates value  $F_3 [(D_s - D_1)/(D_i - D_1)]$  and leads this output to multiplier 14. Meanwhile, final turbidity  $D_0$  is detected and is led to adjustment equipment 10 and is compared with set turbidity  $D_s$ , and the adjustment output is inputted to upper and lower limit limiter 11. Output 0 of limiter 11 is inputted to divider 13 and is divided by set input  $Y$  to obtain  $O/Y$ , and  $O/Y$  is multiplied by the output of operator 9 by multiplier 14, and the obtained value is given as a set value of bypass flow quantity adjustment equipment 15.

Japanese Patent No. 56-97512 appears to show a fluid tank and fluid plumbing system.

Japanese Patent No. 61-25599 appears to show a fluid tank and fluid plumbing system.

Japanese Patent No. 60-21798 appears to show a fluid tank and fluid plumbing system.

Japanese Patent No. 60-16275 appears to show a fluid flow system.

1. ☐ See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application:

2. ☐ English translations are provided:

3. ☐ Other:

C. ☒ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration. The following patents appear to be somewhat more relevant than the others cited, although the Examiner is requested to review all of the references and make his/her own relevancy determination: U.S. 3,059,861; U.S. 4,381,794; U.S. 5,421,883; U.S. 5,560,060; U.S. 5,647,386; U.S. 6,129,099; British 817,860; British 817,851; and all of the Canadian patents.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

A. ☒ The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does (do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

Serial No.  
11/334,799

Filing Date  
1/28/2006

Inventor(s)  
Stockert et al.

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A. ☒ **37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b):** (check only one box)

1. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.

2. ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.

3. ☒ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

4. ☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. ☐ **37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):** (check only one box)

before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. ☐ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

2. ☐ See the certification below. No fee is required.

C. ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):

after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1. ☐ See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

A. ☐ each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d) below in section VII, if applicable; or

B. ☐ no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).

C. ☐ some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that:

☐ each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VIII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A. ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above identified fee.

B. ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 16, 2006

By: Donald G. Walker  
Donald G. Walker  
Reg. No. 44390

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.  
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Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600

DGW/jm

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

3562-000036

10/646,534

## PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

Stockert et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

August 21, 2003

1746

Sheet 1 of 4



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
1.		2001/0015096	08/2001	Hoffman		
2.		2,405,838	08/1946	Lawson et al.		
3.		2,837,685	02/1959	Umbricht		
4.		2,926,674	03/1960	Umbricht et al.		
5.		3,059,861	10/1962	Umbricht et al.		
6.		3,276,458	10/1966	Iversen et al.		
7.		3,439,810	04/1969	Newman et al.		
8.		3,605,775	09/1971	Zaander et al.		
9.		3,614,231	10/1971	Shaw		
10.		3,870,417	03/1975	Bashark		
11.		3,888,269	06/1975	Bashark		
12.		4,222,250	09/1980	Torita		
13.		4,325,161	04/1982	Wood et al.		
14.		4,381,794	05/1983	Stimac et al.		
15.		4,409,999	10/1983	Pedziwiatr		
16.		4,582,077	04/1986	Gabriel et al.		
17.		4,731,154	03/1988	Hausman Hazlitt et al.		
18.		4,796,042	01/1989	Mappin et al.		
19.		4,893,320	01/1990	Yanagi et al.		
20.		4,995,409	02/1991	Watts		
21.		4,996,160	02/1991	Hausman Hazlitt et al.		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



<b>FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)</b>  <b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  Sheet 2 of 4	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	3562-000036	10/646,534
	APPLICANT	
	Stockert et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP
	August 21, 2003	1746

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
22.		5,172,572	12/1992	Ono		
23.		5,174,315	12/1992	Hellstern et al.		
24.		5,201,958	04/1993	Breunsbach et al.		
25.		5,265,446	11/1993	Kuroda et al.		
26.		5,272,892	12/1993	Janutka et al.		
27.		5,284,523	02/1994	Badami et al.		
28.		5,291,626	03/1994	Molnar et al.		
29.		5,330,580	07/1994	Whipple, III et al.		
30.		5,339,844	08/1994	Stanford, Jr. et al.		
31.		5,346,629	09/1994	Wuller		
32.		5,357,648	10/1994	Noestheden		
33.		5,368,053	11/1994	Wilson		
34.		5,396,178	03/1995	Rybarski		
35.		5,411,042	05/1995	Suzuki et al.		
36.		5,444,531	08/1995	Foreman et al.		
37.		5,545,259	08/1996	Suzuki et al.		
38.		5,555,583	09/1996	Berkcan		
39.		5,560,060	10/1996	Dausch et al.		
40.		5,586,567	12/1996	Smith et al.		
41.		5,647,386	06/1997	Kaiser		

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)</b>  <b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  Sheet 3 of 4	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	3562-000036	10/646,534
	APPLICANT	
	Stockert et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP
August 21, 2003	1746	

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
42.		5,661,872	09/1997	Meyer et al.		
43.		5,706,840	01/1998	Schneider et al.		
44.		5,730,163	03/1998	Meyer et al.		
45.		5,746,233	05/1998	Kuroda et al.		
46.		5,800,628	09/1998	Erickson et al.		
47.		5,923,432	07/1999	Kral		
48.		5,931,173	08/1999	Schiele		
49.		5,954,070	09/1999	Abad et al.		
50.		5,954,071	09/1999	Magliocca		
51.		5,960,804	10/1999	Cooper et al.		
52.		6,007,640	12/1999	Neff et al.		
53.		6,115,541	09/2000	Rhodes		
54.		6,119,365	09/2000	Wuller et al.		
55.		6,126,099	10/2000	Fachinger et al.		
56.		6,129,099	10/2000	Foster et al.		

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
1.		817,851	08/1959	Great Britain			
2.		817,860	08/1959	Great Britain			

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)</b>  <b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  Sheet 4 of 4	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL No.
	3562-000036	10/646,534
	APPLICANT	
	Stockert et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP
	August 21, 2003	1746

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes	No
3.		656,624	01/1963	Canada			
4.		699,331	12/1964	Canada			
5.		55-103608	08/1980	Japan		Abstract	
6.		56-97512	08/1981	Japan			
7.		60-16275	01/1985	Japan			
8.		60-21798	02/1985	Japan			
9.		60-163689	08/1985	Japan			
10.		61-25599	02/1986	Japan			
11.		62-259442	11/1987	Japan		Abstract	
12.		2-107296	04/1990	Japan		Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	
1.		Owner's Manual, "Model 215W Liquidborne Laser Particle Counter," (believed to have been published and/or offered for sale in 1995)
2.		Drawing No. 4792692-M-170A05A showing the Daimler-Chrysler Kenosha Plant, Station #5 Seal & Flush, Transfer Machine Serial No. 7100-001, 1 page, (believed to have been offered for sale prior to 2002).

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.